



WHITEMAN SPIRIT



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Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Eat my saw dust

Airman 1st Class Will Harvey, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Structures Flight, cuts wood posts for a new fence Wednesday. The structural apprentice helped repair the fence at Arnold Gate after damaging winds, which reached speeds of up to 103 miles per hour, knocked the structure down during the early May thunderstorms.

Split disbursement mandatory for military travelers

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — All military travelers must now select the split disbursement option on their travel voucher claims to directly pay their government travel card expenses, according to finance officials.

Split disbursement requires travelers to tally up their GTC expenses and authorize enough funds to be sent automatically to Bank of America to pay off their charges, said Michael Weber, Air Force travel card program manager at the Pentagon. Any remaining travel settlement will still be sent to the traveler's personal account.

"Although this change was mandated by the 2003 National Defense Authorization Act to reduce the number of delinquent travel card accounts, split disbursement really is a win-win for everyone," Weber said. "It simplifies the payment process for travelers, gets the bank their money more quickly and reduces the number of delinquent accounts."

Nearly half of all Air Force travelers already use split disbursement on a regular basis when filing their vouchers because it simplifies the process for them, Weber said. "Airmen no longer have to wait for their travel money to be credited to their personal accounts before they can mail a check to the bank," he said. "It saves them the cost of a stamp or a trip to a bank branch and gets the money to the bank within two or three days."

By having travelers pay off their travel card bills automatically, the Air Force should see a decrease in the number of delinquent accounts, he said. This is especially true if a traveler returns from a TDY as a billing cycle is about to turn over, because they can pay off the card before their account becomes 30 days past due.

If a traveler charges more to their GTC than they were authorized, they still must select split disbursement and also reimburse the bank any additional charges, he added.

"Selecting split disbursement on a travel voucher, whether done manually or on an automated travel system, is easy and requires only a few clicks of the mouse or one block to be checked on a form," Weber said.

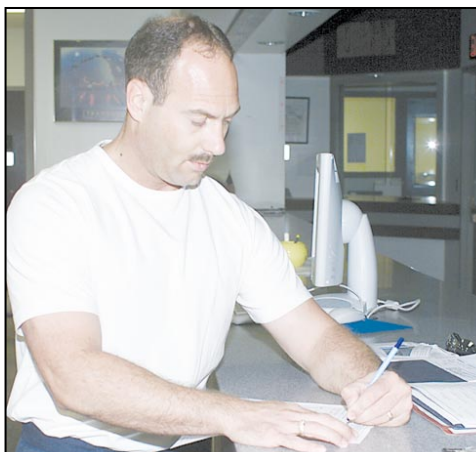


Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Gold, 509th Comptroller Squadron, fills out a travel voucher. He returned from a deployment May 25.

Supervisors and approving officials are required to verify travelers selected split disbursement before signing off on any voucher, he said.

"If split disbursement is not selected on a voucher, it will be returned to the traveler to be redone," he said. "This may delay the processing of the claim and potentially put the traveler's GTC account into a past-due status."

Although split disbursement is not yet mandatory for civilian employees, Weber encouraged them to take advantage of its timesaving benefit.

For more information, call the 509th Comptroller Squadron customer service desk at 687-5375 or your unit travel card program manager.

9-Line Target

Let's focus on safety during the upcoming GENEX ... it's our way to ensure safe and effective employment of the world's premier weapon system.

News in Brief

Basewide garage sale set

A basewide garage sale begins at 8 a.m. June 7. The garage sale takes place in base housing for members who live on base and in the Whiteman Elementary School parking lot for members who live off base. Military members and Department of Defense civilians wanting to host a sale must sign up at the housing office by Tuesday.

Town hall meetings set

Two town hall meetings hosted by Col. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, begin at noon and 7 p.m. June 10 at Mission's End. Free on-site childcare is available. For a childcare reservation, call the family support center at 687-7132.

Board results released

The spring 2003 Air Combat Command-rated squadron commander candidate selection board recently announced its results.

Lt. Cols. Steven Basham, 325th Bomb squadron, and Thomas Bussiere, 509th Bomb Wing, were selected from Whiteman.

Spirit air show issue set

The June 13 issue of the *Whiteman Spirit* will be solely dedicated to the Wings over Whiteman air show. Any information for the *Whiteman Spirit* must be submitted by noon Monday to whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil for the June 6 issue. The *Whiteman Spirit* will return to its normal format for the June 20 issue.

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Weather

Saturday
Partly cloudy



H 76°
L 60°

Sunday
Partly cloudy



H 75°
L 58°

Courtesy of 509th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

Commander's Corner

By Col. Doug Raaberg
509th Bomb Wing Commander

ON THE FLY. May has been an incredibly busy month for the 509th Bomb Wing — America wants to see its B-2 bomber! In the last week alone, we flew over the Indy 500, Coca-Cola 600, the Air Force Academy, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and had a static display at Tinker AFB, Okla.

All told, millions of Americans had the opportunity to see America's premier bomber and it's our way of saying thanks for their support. My hat is off to the entire wing for all you've done to showcase the B-2. My personal thanks goes out to Capt. John Sullivan, 509th Operations Support Squadron, for managing such a busy operation.

TOWN HALL MEETING. We are slowly getting all our AEF 8 members back from deployments, but some members of the 509th, 442nd Fighter Wing, 1-135th Aviation Battalion and the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114 are still away from their homes and families supporting the war on terror and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Now, more than ever, we must continue to take care of our own and support those families whose loved ones are away.

I will be doing my part to answer any questions or concerns at a town hall meeting at noon and 7 p.m. June 10 at Mission's End. I encourage people from all the Whiteman units to attend — please spread the word.

SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY. The Air Force lost four airmen over the Memorial Day weekend. The B-2 can't fly without the outstanding men and women of the 509th who fly, maintain and support it. That's why I urge you to stay vigilant when it comes to safety. Look out for each other! Team Whiteman can't afford to lose a single one of you.

In addition, we've seen an increase in DUIs over the last couple of months. In several of these cases, the DUI happened in spite of a designated driver plan. Look out for each other, and err to the conservative! You can't afford a DUI, and we can't afford to lose you. Have fun, but be smart about it.

SUMMER OF CHANGE. Over the next few months, the wing will experience several leadership changes with several squadron changes of command ceremonies. The first of those took place this week with the 509th Medical Support Squadron. We said goodbye to Lt. Col. Mark Lewandowski and his wife, Robin. Thank you for your leadership and

commitment to the 509th Medical Group and best of luck at your next assignment. Welcome to Maj. Jeff Johnson and his wife, Cindy.

We are proud to have you as a part of Team Whiteman and looking forward to working with you.

LEADERS OF TOMORROW. Congratulations are in order for two of Team Whiteman's finest. Lt. Col. Steven Basham, 325th Bomb Squadron, and Lt. Col. Thomas Bussiere, 509th BW chief of safety, were selected as Air Combat Command rated squadron commander candidates. Shack! You've both made significant contributions to the 509th and your selection is very well deserved.

OUR MISSION COMES FIRST. Two more important events are coming in the next few weeks; the generation exercise and our upcoming air show, Wings over Whiteman. Let's stay focused on the mission and complete both the way the 509th always does ... successfully!

By the way, the Monday after the air show is a Whiteman Family Day. Take the day off since we will have kept the wing very busy from now through the air show weekend. You've earned it.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Master Sgt. Dave Verran and Capt. John Sullivan, 509th Operations Support Squadron, plan air show flyover times across the United States.

Money helps people complete mission

By Lt. Col. Diane Holmgren
509th Comptroller Squadron

"No money, no mission." Someone recently asked me, "Why would finance deploy over to the desert?" This brings up a very good question.

What role does the comptroller function — finance, financial managers, FMers — play in contingency operations?

Financial management is an essential component of the Expeditionary Air Force and plays an important role in providing combat support to the war fighting commander at the deployed location, as well as supporting the war fighter from the home station. Currently, 13 percent of our squadron is deployed to various locations. This includes one NCO who opened the first finance office in Iraq.

What does a finance troop do at a deployed location? We get money into the war fighting commander's hands! We eat, sleep and work alongside war fighters. In emergent situations, we arrive at the area of operations before the bulk of combat forces. Once we were largely an afterthought; however, financial managers are now part of the first team. We perform in the pressure-packed environment of the operator more often; we — as they — must be ready.

I recently received an e-mail from our very own Tech. Sgt. Bill Pauley, who opened the finance office in Iraq. He wrote, "We sleep in the same quarters that we work

in. We are allowed three liters of water and two meals ready to eat per day. We are allowed one shower per week and when we do it's a central shower outside where there is no privacy. The bathrooms are just as open with no privacy. The area adjacent to our finance office will house the prisoners of war and serve as a staging area for captured Iraqi soldiers. The place has underground tunnels and has not yet been inspected. Several Iraqi soldiers have emerged onto the camp and have been taken prisoner or shot. We were given the rules by legal about engaging hostile forces and use of deadly force.

The place is overrun with wild dogs ... packs up to 200. The order is to shoot on sight. There are land mines all around. Just last week, the contracting officer ran over one with his (humvee) and it blew up the bulldozer that followed his vehicle. No one was hurt, but the dozer was totally disabled. Had it blown up on the (humvee) ... they would have lost their lives.

Along with all our conventional and chemical gear, we're taking malaria tablets due to the large problems with that in this area. The pills cause severe nausea, vomiting and severe sunburn when exposed to the sun. The average daily temperature is 104 degrees Fahrenheit and it's not yet summer.

There's no communications, no services, no postal, nothing we aren't going to build or make happen. The buildings are badly damaged by the bombing and still needs a lot of work before we can inhabit it fully."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Master Sgt. Bain Walling and Lt. Col. Diane Holmgren, 509th Comptroller Squadron, review a unit deployment manager folder. Walling recently returned from a six-month deployment.

So, why did Tech. Sgt. Pauley set up a finance office in Iraq? Finance troops like to him bring resources to the fight.

Cash is still king. Some banks won't take U.S. treasury checks and certain businesses won't accept credit instruments such as the government purchase card. In the more

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WHITEMAN SPIRIT

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The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil or write to us at:

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B-2 instructor pilot takes command of 509th Operations Group

By Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
Public Affairs

Col. Curtiss Petrek assumed command of the 509th Operations Group in a ceremony May 22.

The former B-2 instructor pilot said he's privileged to be a part of Team Whiteman again and hopes to learn more about the job "by drawing on the wisdom of the other group commanders."

The 23-year Air Force veteran returns to Whiteman after a tour at U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. There he was the deputy director of resources and requirements directorate and chief of programs and requirements division. Now, he said he looks forward to the challenges of this assignment.

"This position demands knowledge that is both broader and deeper than that required in any previous position I've been in," Petrek said. "Addition-

ally, the caliber of people — because of what they do — is a notch above any previous level I've been associated with."

The colonel also said he plans to continue the 509th OG's tradition of excellence.

"It's evident that the group has outstanding leaders in place," he said. "(I know) everything this group does has the ultimate goal of improving combat capability. That's the way it should be and the way it will continue to be in the future."

While the group has its goals, the Air Force Academy graduate said he has three priorities as its commander.

✓ Continue to develop the discipline that will allow the group to be on the cutting edge of capability, yet guarantee the safest operations.

✓ Develop those training programs that will allow people to "fight like we train" and "train like we fight."

✓ Excel in those responsibilities that come with a declaration of fully operational capability. With little more than a week on the job, Petrek shared how the 509th OG will continue to contribute to the wing's mission.

"The 509th Bomb Wing will continually be called upon to be more responsive and more flexible. As a group, we will develop the discipline and training programs, and participate in activities allowing us to pursue responsiveness and flexibility," Petrek said. "My vision is to constantly improve our readiness while, at the same time, decrease our footprint."

As the commander gets out to meet his troops, he said his team will "strive to do the right thing each time, every time with the vigor and the energy to get it all right."

Petrek assumed command from Col. Gregory Biscone, who took an assignment as the 5th Bomb Wing commander at Minot AFB, N.D.



Photo by Master Sgt. Francis Dupuis

Col. Curtiss Petrek renders his first salute as the 509th Operations Group commander.

Blue, silver AEFs get rotations back on track

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force is establishing two transitional air and space expeditionary forces, blue and silver, to put the deployment schedule back on track by March 2004 and to bring home deployed airmen as quickly as possible.

"We envision these two 120-day rotations filling the requirements of combatant commanders through spring when we can once again implement the normal steady-state AEF rotation," said Maj. Gen. Timothy Peppe, special assistant for AEF matters at the Pentagon. "Additionally, we can expect some aircraft, aircrew and associated maintenance rotations outside these two transitional AEFs as we attempt to get them back to the normal schedule next spring."

The blue AEF will be on call to fulfill mission requirements between July and November, Peppe said. Silver will be on call from November through March.

"The magnitude of the various combatant commanders' continuing requirements throughout the world will dictate the number of airmen that we will have to deploy," he said.

According to the general, airmen in AEFs 9/10 and 1/2 who were identified to support Operation Iraqi Freedom but did not deploy will likely be the most vulnerable to deploy with the blue or silver AEFs.

"Ideally, as we go through the process (of matching people to these AEFs), those that have been home the longest from a previous deployment will be matched to deploy first," he said. "There may be some exceptions but I certainly hope not many. We will start with AEFs 9/10 and reach forward, as needed, to fill requirements."

Airmen selected to support the blue AEF can expect to be notified of their deployment vulnerability over the next few weeks, he said.

"Most of the major command deployment taskings will be made by June 10 and airmen should receive their noti-



Courtesy photo

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM — Army Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill, 180th Combined Joint Task Force commander, pauses to take a photo with Tech. Sgt. Dan Dial, a 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron member who is deployed with the 180th CJTF.

cations soon after," he said. "However, if a (major command) cannot fill a particular tasking, the AEF Center (at Langley Air Force Base, Va.) will have to source it to another (major command), which may delay some individ-

ual notifications."

These transitional AEFs will allow the Air Force to get currently deployed airmen back home to their families, he said.

The combatant commanders are already releasing forces that were deployed, but those forces may need to remain in theater until the Air Force can fill those requirements and get enough assets in theater to bring them home, he explained.

"We would like to rotate people home more quickly but the bottom line is that it takes time to make this happen," Peppe said. "But we are working the issue as hard and as fast as we can."

"Airmen need to understand that the AEF is operating 'as advertised,'" he said. "It was designed, from the start, to 'flex,' as necessary, to meet the widest range of combatant commander requirements. A transition period like the one we are experiencing now is normal as we move from one AEF operating environment — crisis action — to another — steady state."




"Since it's beginning, I think the AEF has been a great success," he said. "I don't believe it was ever designed to handle a situation the size of the one we just had but I think it worked well. We were able to use it to timely ... identify people to meet the combatant commanders' requirements."

The Air Force was initially tasked to deploy approximately 120,000 active-duty, Guard and Reserve airmen, nearly a quarter of the service's military people, to support operations in Iraq, Peppe said.

"However, we only needed to deploy approximately 50,000," he explained. "That feat is a testament to the awesome work of our people and the AEF that was flexible enough to adapt to mission requirements and fill them as needed."

Although Air Force leaders want airmen to be reunited with their families as quickly as possible, the service still must meet the needs of the combatant commanders to continue supporting operations throughout the world, he said.

Wings over Whiteman
Countdown
15 days
<http://www.whiteman.af.mil/airshow>

Sortie board

Monthly

	B-2	A-10	T-38
Goal	530.0	320.0	392.7
Flown	573.9	465.5	385.0

Fiscal year

	B-2	A-10	T-38
Goal	6,350.0	3,870.0	4,200.0
Flown	5,199.0	3,458.0	2,662.7

Information is current as of Wednesday.

MONEY,

continued from Page 2

austere operating locations, we must pay our bills for supplies and materials with cold hard cash. Therefore, our people must be first on the ground with contracting very early in the process — especially in bare base situations to build runways, set up lodging and messing facilities, and other items needed to operate and live.

In addition to cash operations and providing customer support, we must still maintain fiscal accountability and live by the same funding rules, regulations and laws. Therefore, we need budget and accounting experts to resolve funding issues and to maintain fiscal accountability for the money spent.

The deployed location is a tough environment for our deployed FMers. They face uncertain situations, shifting goals, make quick decisions, deal with multiple players from different cultures, and sustain substantial personal financial liability for the assets in their charge. We spend many hours training our folks so they're prepared from a technical standpoint; as well as, having all the necessary war fighting skills to operate and survive.

How about at home station support? One would wonder what do we do here with a large majority of the wing's troops deployed? With less people, our peacetime mission continues here. We are providing customer service to our military and civilian workforce, preparing next year's financial plan, executing this year's \$110 million budget to sustain current operations, and so on. Besides our normal workload, we process around 200 interim payments monthly for our deployed members. We also process and pay more than 800 reservist vouchers each month. It takes a team effort to make it all happen. Our folks here have done a super fantastic job juggling the heavy workload to support the deployed members and their families.

To all of the finance troops here supporting the war fighters and to all those deployed members, I salute you for your dedication and commitment to the mission and our customers.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Nick Martin

Preppin' for the fight

Airman 1st Class Nyentue Seekie, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron assistant dedicated crew chief, wipes down a door on a B-2. Cleaning the aircraft is one of many details performed on an aircraft before it flies a sortie.



Photo by Larry McTighe

Spirit in the sky

CONCORD, N.C. (AFPN) — Members of the Wood Brothers Race Team watch a B-2 bomber fly over their Air Force Centennial of Flight race car. The B-2 conducted the flyover during pre-race ceremonies for the NASCAR Coca-Cola 600 at Lowe's Motor Speedway here Sunday.

This space is reserved for advertisements

Whiteman Spirit Award



Senior Airman Jay Wilson

509th Mission Support Squadron

Senior Airman Jay Wilson, 509th Mission Support Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Ned Schoeck, 509th Bomb Wing vice commander, Wednesday.

Lt. Col. Tom Langston, former 509th Medical Operations Squadron commander, nominated Wilson for this award.

Langston said he received short-notice permanent change of station orders and needed to get things rolling. When he called outbound assignments, Wilson answered the phone.

"(She) offered a one-on-one initial briefing to get me started right away," Langston said.

Langston said he went to the Thursday appointment a bit early and again was greeted by Wilson, who explained it would take a few minutes to get the required documents together.

"She rapidly got the required paperwork assembled, then thoroughly reviewed procedures and set up a perfect final out-processing time," he said. "When Senior Airman Wilson found out I needed to attend a finance brief on Monday, she cautioned that my orders would not be ready before the briefing, but that I could provide orders for finance later in the week. To my total surprise, she called me a few hours later to tell me my PCS orders were ready for pick up."

"Wow! What service," Langston said. "What an example of going above and beyond what's expected or required. Senior Airman Wilson really hit the mark of excellence in my book."

Personally speaking

Duty title: Outbound assignments representative

Time on station: 2 years and 9 months

Time in service: 2 years and 11 months

Hometown: Mayfield, N.Y.

Goals: Live life to the fullest.

Hobbies: Sports, shopping and enjoying the outdoors.

Pet Peeves: People who hate their jobs and take it out on the customers.

Best thing about Whiteman: The people.

What motivates your winning spirit? My friends and family.

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? Move it to a big city.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed with the superior customer service provided by the nominee. If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@Whiteman.af.mil.

Spirit spotlights

... on **2nd Lts. Jennifer Pickett**, 509th Bomb Wing; **Derek Williamson**, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. Douglas Koontz**, 509th Medical Operations Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Yaneth Alvarez**, 509th Medical Support Squadron; and **Airmen 1st Class Ruben Zamora, Minh Nguyen, Rachel Thompson** and **Airman Mario Ballinas**, 509th Maintenance Squadron, for preparing more than 30 "victims" for the air show major accident response exercise May 19.

This space is reserved for advertisements

Submitting _____
*Civilian Employee
of the Week*

To nominate a civilian employee,
send an e-mail to
whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.
Be sure to include why this person
is being nominated.

Civilian Employee of the Week

Jeff Baker was nominated for this award by Meladee Bay, 509th Services Squadron. Baker is responsible for maintaining the computers in the services squadron. "In the short amount of time Jeff has been in this position, we've come out of the dark ages and are finally on the same playing field with the rest of the base. This was not the case before he arrived," Bay said. "The child development and youth centers now have Internet access and can communicate with the rest of the base. We've built personal distribution lists (to contact) each parent when needed with vital information about their children. The community center's employees also have e-mail accounts, instead of just the director. His knowledge and determination to help has been greatly appreciated."



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Photos by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Senior Master Sgt. Steph Page, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, inspects Airman 1st Class Rick Brown's dormitory room. Brown lives in Columbia Hall and is assigned to the 509th AMXS.

1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note: The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies, and proper military decorum. Each week, a different first sergeant will share their view.)

The Air Force standards have developed slowly into what we have today, said Senior Master Sgt. Steph Page, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant. Many of these standards have evolved due to the safety and health risks our military members face. According to Air Force Policy Directive 36-29, Military Standards, Air Force members will adhere to standards of neatness, cleanliness, safety and military image. This not only applies to the wear of the uniform, but your conduct in your respective quarters. This standard gives a disciplined person the rules of engagement in maintaining a safe and healthy appearance on and off duty. Supervisors must engage daily in helping our troops meet these standards.



Senior Master Sgt. Steph Page, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, meets with squadron members and discusses maintaining the standards.

This space is reserved for advertisements

LRS supplies lifelines



Airman Theresa Luna, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron Distribution Flight, scans a serialized bar label for a piece of equipment, which was generated on a portable printer. Luna is an inbound cargo element member who assisted in processing more than 1,400 cargo pieces during the 509th Bomb Wing's involvement in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The labels are used for larger items, such as aircraft components, and to store containers for smaller items. Using labels reduces paperwork and increases the staff members' ability to keep track of property as it moves from the supply chain to the customer.



Staff Sgts. Allison Korzun and Larry Travis, computer operations analysts, use Standard Asset Tracking System terminals. The hand-held device transmits data to a program server using a 2.45 GHz wireless network. Korzun and Travis are members of the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron computer operations section where they provide computer and network support to internal and external customers. Before SATS was available, the 509th LRS members tracked and filed thousands of documents daily. SATS improves accountability and tracking time, reducing item processing time by 75 percent. Base members are required to have SATS cards to order items from supply.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacadan

Staff Sgt. Shawn Allen, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron Distribution Flight, prepares to stock an item in the squadron's storage warehouse. Scanned information is instantly transmitted to the SATS server and updated achieving better accountability of assets in the logistics system.



Airman Mario Esparza, Airman 1st Class Audrey Umhoefer and Senior Airman Amy McCall, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron Management and Systems Flight, review a customer smart card and paperwork authorizing a person to sign for Air Force property. Without a smart card, customers can't receive a receipt for ordered assets. The airmen work in the LRS customer service section.



Tech. Sgt. Brian Pulliam, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, uses his SATS card to receive property from Airman 1st Class Darion Curtis, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Curtis is a member of the 509th LRS Vehicle Management Flight. He works with the squadron's distribution flight to help deliver requested property to customers basewide.

FTAC team leader helps new airmen, self, grow

By Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Nelson Pendleton walked into the room and met the gaze of 30 pairs of eyes.

Pendleton approached the podium in the main classroom of the First-Term Airmen Center to give the students a mandatory newcomers' briefing.

The 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron member, who hadn't supervised more than 10 airmen, realized he was responsible for jump-starting these 30 airmen's careers. He would attempt to give them a positive first impression of the base, and provide a smooth transition from basic and technical training to the "real Air Force."

"You definitely don't want them to see you sweat," said Pendleton, a 509th LRS materiel control specialist. "You always want to keep the standard so the class will follow your example."

Clean shaven, with a neatly pressed uniform and sparkling boots, Pendleton set an important example with his military appearance, but the real challenge would lie in the vocal and mental aspects of being an FTAC team leader.

An FTAC leader must in-process the airmen to the base, educate them about the area, inform them about appointments and benefits, and brief airmen on standards and responsibilities — in a two-week span.

"(Having) communication skills are a must," said Pendleton, a native of Thaxton, Va. "You have to sell this community — sell this base."

The team leader role provides a new NCO the chance to exercise not only communication skills, but decision-making, planning and discipline skills in ways the NCO may not have used.

These skills greatly enhance the decision-making skills of an NCO, especially for Pendleton, said Senior Master Sgt. Bobby Rush, 509th Bomb Wing career assistance advisor.

"The leadership lessons (from being FTAC team leader) are priceless," Rush said. "They come from supervising one to four troops and now impact 25-40 students in each class. They are the first real role model or NCO for these newly assigned airmen."

In his 120-day tour as FTAC team

“ You're kind of like a shirt (first sergeant), supervisor, dorm manager and T.I. (military training instructor) all rolled into one. **”**

Staff Sgt. Nelson Pendleton
509th Logistics Readiness Squadron

leader, Pendleton organized 45-50 briefings, included sessions at the community center, education office, family support center and the finance office, and organized tours of the base, Oscar-01 and flight line.

He also disciplines the new airmen who suddenly have new privileges that, as military members, they must still uphold standards and values. Pendleton briefs students about punishment: letters of counseling, letters of reprimand, unfavorable information files and Articles 15.

Pendleton, who learned about the position while attending ALS in Germany, said the difficulty in the team leader's role comes from realizing the diversity in each group. Some classes have more members with spouses, some don't, and some students come from bustling cities, while some hail from small rural towns.

"You have to be very flexible in the way you present the class," Pendleton said.

Flexible, indeed. In a short time, a team leader must also act as a tour guide, be available for advice and be a good teacher while, at the same time, remembering military codes of conduct.

"You're kind of like a shirt (first sergeant), supervisor, dorm manager and T.I. (military training instructor) all rolled into one," Pendleton said.

"Depending on the individual, the responsibility (change) will be different," Rush said. "Some team leaders come here with a lot of experience leading troops and some come with no experience at all. This is not a job for someone who doesn't like to be in the spotlight or someone who can't take corrective criticism well."

The position allowed Pendleton to



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Airman Alyssa Gazda, 509th Operations Support Squadron, listens as Staff Sgt. Nelson Pendleton, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, talks about recreational activities in the local area. Pendleton finished his tour as First-Term Airman Center team leader May 30.

devise new ideas, such as converting an old storage room into a computer room and library, where students can check e-mail.

As FTAC team leader, his day began at 6:30 a.m. and it ended at 5:30 p.m. He said he came in early to set the example for his new troops and stayed an hour late to make himself available for questions.

Pendleton, who finished his tour May 30, said his experience will help him become an airman leadership school instructor and possibly a first sergeant or chief master sergeant one day. He said he

believes that by being a counselor and, most importantly, a good role model for these new airmen, he has influenced them positively.

"If someone in one of my classes becomes a member of Airmen Against Drunk Driving and saves a life, I've made a difference," Pendleton said.

If you are a staff sergeant or a senior airman who has completed ALS, you may apply for the FTAC team leader position. The next available slot is Sept. 15. For details, call Rush at 687-7829 or Tech. Sgt. Rex Fleming at 687-6391.

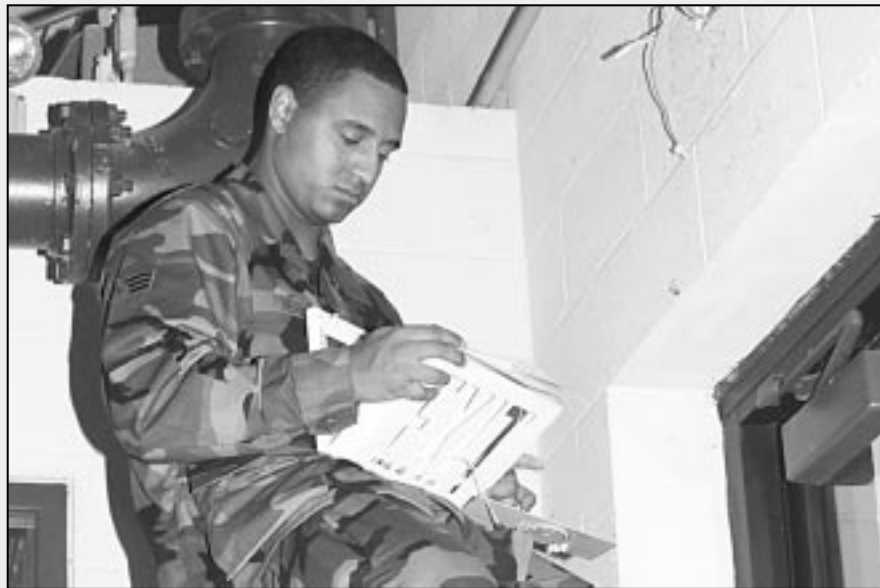


Photo by Airman 1st Class Nick Martin

This way out

Senior Airman Trevin Mead installs an exit sign at the waste water treatment plant. The 509th Civil Engineer Squadron member helps maintain the base's interior lighting and exit signs.



Courtesy photo

Jason Wells, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department, mows grass for a deployed squadron member.

Preparation prevents injury

A lawn mower can throw objects more than 200 miles per hour or 300 feet per second. **These tips can help a person avoid injury from a lawn mower:**

- ✓ Select the right mower for the job. Make sure you have the size, strength and experience to run it.
- ✓ Know the equipment. Read the owner's manual and follow all safety instructions. Adults should make sure children are knowledgeable before letting them to use a lawn mower.
- ✓ Prepare properly. Make sure the mower guards and controls work. Pick up sticks, toys, rocks and trash in the area to be mowed. Keep bystanders away. Dress for safety, including wearing sturdy shoes with slip-resistant rubber soles, long pants and long-sleeved shirt, and eye and hearing protection.
- ✓ Use the proper fueling method. Remove the ignition wire from the spark plug, and cool a hot mower for 10 minutes or more before refueling. Refuel outdoors or in a well-ventilated area, and use the right fuel or oil mix for the type or engine. Electric mowers should be plugged into a ground-fault circuit interrupter outlet to prevent shock or electrocution. Be sure extension cords are in good condition and are rated for outdoor use.
- ✓ Operate the mower safely. Wait until the grass is dry before mowing. With push mowers, mow across the slope, never up and down. Slopes that are too steep should be trimmed by hand or planted with a low-maintenance ground cover. Be sure to shut the mower off before unclogging it or leaving it.
- ✓ Don't take shortcuts. Safety guards (automatic shut off, reflection guards, etc.) are there for a purpose — don't remove or alter in any way.

These safety tips when using riding lawn mowers:

- ✓ Read, understand and follow the instructions in the manufacturer's operating manual.
- ✓ Keep the children indoors while you mow.
- ✓ Wear hearing, head protection and safety glasses.
- ✓ Keep safety devices and guards in place.
- ✓ Set mower at the highest cutting point when operating on rough ground.
- ✓ Disengage all attachment clutches and shift mower into neutral before attempting to start the engine.
- ✓ Look behind the mower when backing up. Back up only minimal distances.
- ✓ With a riding mower, mow straight up and down slopes rather than sideways for greater stability (unless mower is counter-balanced).
- ✓ Reduce speed on slopes when making sharp turns to prevent tipping or loss of control.
- ✓ Stop and inspect the blades and shaft if the mower runs into a rock or stump. Damaged blades can cause vibration which can loosen the blades.
- ✓ Check grass catcher bags for wear. Replace worn bags.
- ✓ Try to use a mower with a control that stops the mower from moving forward if the handle is let go.

When using a riding lawn mower avoid:

- ✓ Using a lawn mower when the ground is wet.
- ✓ Operating lawn mower barefoot or wearing sandals.
- ✓ Remove grass catcher or unclogging chute with the motor running.
- ✓ Leaving mower on a slope.
- ✓ Carrying passengers.
- ✓ Stopping or start suddenly when going uphill or downhill.
- ✓ Mounting or dismounting while the mower is running.
- ✓ Leaving a lawn mower unattended if the engine is running (even if the blade is not turning).

(Courtesy of the 509th Bomb Wing Safety Office)

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Nick Martin

Flow master

Bob Hurd, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, operates the Supervise Control and Data Acquisition computer terminal. The SCADA is a state-of-the-art interface system that displays and controls 36 modem-controlled lift stations that pump water to the waste water treatment plant. The system also tracks the amount of water flowing into the plant and can anticipate possible overflow problems.

What's happening

Education

For more details, visit
<https://www.mil.whiteman.af.mil/509mss/educ/homepage.htm>

CLEP tests cancelled

These College Level Examination Program tests are cancelled effective June 30. They are: Humanities, general chemistry, college level German, general biology, Western Civilization I and II. For more details, call 687-5750.

Community

Tobacco cessation class set

The health and wellness center offers a series of tobacco cessation classes 11 a.m.-noon June 4, 11, 18, 25 and July 2. To register, call 687-4194.

Basewide garage sale set

A basewide garage sale begins at 8 a.m. June 7. The garage sale takes place in base housing for members who live on base and in the Whiteman Elementary School parking lot for members who live off base. Military members and Department of Defense civilians wanting to host a sale must sign up at the housing office by Tuesday.

ALS sets class 03-E events

- ✓ The airman leadership school class 03-E retreat ceremony begins at 4 p.m. June 6 at the flagpole at Bldg. 509. Participants must be in place by 3:45 p.m.
- ✓ Reveille begins at 7:30 a.m. June 12 at the ALS drill pad. Arrival time is 7:25 a.m.
- ✓ Graduation begins at 5:30 p.m. June 12 at Mission's End. The speaker is

Senior Master Sgt. Bobby Rush, 509th Bomb Wing career assistance advisor.

The meal is chicken cordon bleu with mashed potatoes. Cost is \$12.35 for members and \$14.35 for nonmembers. Attire is mess dress or semi-formal for military members, and coat and tie for civilians. Tickets are available from members of class 03-E.

Knob Noster baby contest set

The Knob Noster Fair baby contest begins at 9 a.m. June 7 at Knob Noster Middle School. Parents can enter their 0- to 36-month-old child for a \$5 entry fee. For more details, call Shannon Carlisle at 563-4298.

Youth soccer camp scheduled

The Paul Klover Soccer Association hosts a youth soccer camp June 9-12 at Clover Dell Fields in Sedalia. Players ages 12, 13 and 14 begin their session at 8:30 a.m., while the session for 8- to 11-year-olds begins at 5:30 p.m. on those days. High school and college coaches will be available for guidance at the camp. For more details, call Doug Landefeld at 660-829-1973.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

TAP program available

A three-day transition assistance program for people separating or retiring from the military begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday. Attendees will learn basic resume writing skills, interviewing skills, salary negotiation and receive information about preparing for deployment and programs available to family members who are left behind.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Women's softball teams tune skills

The 2003 women's intramural and extramural softball season is under way. Left: Erin Boyd, 509th MUNS throws the ball to first. Above: Heather Sells, 509th MUNS coach, counsels softball player Elizabeth Hilderman. The 509th MUNS extramural team lost its season opener to the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron 11-1 May 19. The team's next game is June 9 against the 509th LRS.



Aerobics Schedule

Mondays — 9 a.m. step interval, noon cardio-kick boxing and 5 p.m. turbo step

Tuesdays — Noon cardio-kickboxing and 5 p.m. cardio-toning mix

Wednesdays — 6 a.m. cardio-kickboxing and 5 p.m. kick butt

Thursdays — Noon cardio-kickboxing

There are no classes scheduled for Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

One ... more

Jason Armagost, 509th Operations Support Squadron, uses a seated row machine at the fitness center Wednesday. The fitness center hours are 4:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 4:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Fridays, and 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.



Services Page editor.....Andrea Bradley
509th Services Squadron.....687-3594

*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Tickets & Travel 687-5643

New summer hours

Due to customer demand, Tickets and Travel is open 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays.

Theme park tickets are available

Worlds of Fun - adult tickets 50 percent off

Oceans of Fun - adults save \$7

Silver Dollar City - adult tickets \$4 off plus receive a second day free

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Picnic at the park

Gather your family and friends 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday for a picnic and games at the base lake. Bring your own lunch, snacks or goodies to share. Enjoy paddleboats, volleyball, horseshoes, frisbee golf and more. This is a free event. Sign up at outdoor recreation by Monday.

Day at the lake

Pack a lunch and bring a swimming gear 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Thursday at Long Shoals Marina, Truman Lake in Warsaw, Mo. Enjoy a boat launch, swimming, lunch (not included in price) and observe the intramural fishing weigh-in. Cost is \$10. Meet at outdoor recreation at 11 a.m.

Boater safety course

Receive certification to rent a boat at outdoor recreation 9-11 a.m. June 7. The free class is required to operate boats from outdoor recreation.

Discover scuba

Marty Naaktgeboren of Sandy Paws Diving teaches an introduction to scuba diving 6-8 p.m. June 8 at the base pool. Sign up by June 8 and the cost is \$18. Participants must be 18 or older. Call for more details.

Stars & Strikes 687-5114

Steak and bowling special

Enjoy dinner and bowling 6-9 p.m. Fridays. The \$10 cost includes a steak dinner, two games of bowling and rental

shoes. The cost is \$8.50 for dinner only.

Mission's End 687-4422

Super Mongolian barbecue

Family and friends can enjoy a super Mongolian barbecue 5:30-8 p.m. today. Cost is \$10.95 for members and \$12.95 for nonmembers.

Teen Center 687-5819

Jewelry making workshop

Learn the art of creating fimo clay and glass bead jewelry free 3-6 p.m. Saturday. Macrame a friendship bracelet or make a fashion statement with faceted beads.

School's out celebration

Compete in sand volleyball, enjoy a cookout, play games and have fun under the stars 7 p.m.-11 p.m. May 31. Prizes awarded to best "summer look" outfit. The teen center is closed on this date. Cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers.

TEENSupreme Keystone club

The Keystone club meets 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday. This free leadership club offers help to others through community service. Free lunch from Taco Bell.*

Worlds of Fun

Gather your friends and have fun at Worlds of Fun amusement park 9 a.m.-9 p.m. June 7. Cost of \$28 includes transportation and admission to the park. Bring money for food and sign up by June 6.

Buffalo River canoe trip

Enjoy a TRAIL outing in Tyler Ben Park, Ark. Teens can learn how to camp, cook and canoe. Also meet with the Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., TRAIL group June 12-13. Sign up by June 10 to claim one of the 13 available spaces. Cost of \$20 includes all expenses. Parents must meet at 6 p.m. June 11 at the teen center for a parent meeting.

Youth Center 687-5586

Summer specialty camp

Youth ages 9-12 can register for summer specialty camps now through May 29. Youth can participate in creative arts, physical fitness, life skills and other programs 11:15 a.m.-4:15 p.m. weekdays June 2-27. Sign up for a specific week or all four weeks. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for nonmembers for each week. Sponsored in part by Fowler's Family Autos.

B.R.I.D.G.E.

Five- through 12-year-olds of deployed military members can participate in a free candy bar BINGO 3-5 p.m. Saturday.

Members only fun night

Kindergartners through fourth graders can play indoor games, and have the opportunity to do arts and crafts during members only fun night 6:30-9:30 p.m. June 6. The cost is \$5.

Pre-teen scene hangout

Fifth through seventh graders can play games and hang out with friends 6-9 p.m. Saturday. Cost is \$2 members and \$3 for nonmembers.

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Marble kaleidoscopes

Make a beautiful kaleidoscope out of stained glass 10 a.m.-2 p.m. June 7 and 21. Sign up by noon the day before the class. Cost is \$10 plus supplies.

New merchandise

Stop by skills development center to see the fun and exciting new merchandise. There are many new craft ideas for children and adults.

Build a Boat



Build and race a boat to kick off summer 6-8 p.m. June 6 at the base pool. Cost is \$2. Each team must have a minimum of five participants. Win a trophy for fastest team, best sinking or most team spirit. Chips and soda are provided. For more information, call 687-5617. Sponsored in part by Big Surf.*

Royal Oaks 687-5572

Ladies golf clinic

A ladies golf clinic takes place 5:30-6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in June. Call for more details.

Community Center 687-5617

Dogs on pawade pawty

Dogs and owners can wear costumes and enjoy an afternoon of fun and games free 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Skelton Park. Dogs must be on a leash. Sponsored in-part by Diamond Pet Food.*

Fitness Center 687-5496

Triathlon

Athletes can participate in a triathlon that includes swimming 150 meters, a 10k bike ride and a 5k run at 9 a.m. June 22. There are individual open divisions and team divisions for men and women. Team divisions must have a swimmer, biker and runner and can be co-ed. Sign up by June 19. Sponsored in part by Fowler's Family Autos.*

Auto Skills 687-5689

Tire training

Learn how to safely use the tire change and wheel balance

Whiteman Base Theater

Friday

View from the Top PG-13 7 p.m.

Starring — Gwyneth Paltrow & Mike Myers
Donna dreams of becoming an international flight attendant and is willing to do whatever it takes. The road to success is rarely a smooth flight. She encounters more turbulence than she bargained for.

Saturday

Anger Management PG-13 7 p.m.

Starring — Adam Sandler, Jack Nicholson & Marisa Tomei
A mild mannered businessman is accused of a crime and sentenced to an anger management program. He discovers that his instructor is a crazy psycho with his own anger management problem.

Sunday

Malibu's Most Wanted PG-13 5:30p.m.

Starring — Jamie Kennedy & Anthony Anderson
Brad, a wanna-be rap star from Malibu acts and talks like he's from the "hood." Concerned that his son is going to embarrass him during his campaign to become the governor of California, his wealthy father hires two Juilliard actors to disguise themselves as "real life gangstaz" and kidnap his son, dropping him off in the "real hood."

Adults \$3 Youth \$1.50

Movie recording line 687-5110.

Movies are subject to change due to availability.